

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: HUMBLE et al.  
Serial No.: To be Determined  
Filing Date: October 17, 2003  
Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Examiner: Unassigned  
Title: **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR REMOVING A  
PROTECTIVE COVER FROM A MEDICAL  
INSTRUMENT**

**MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

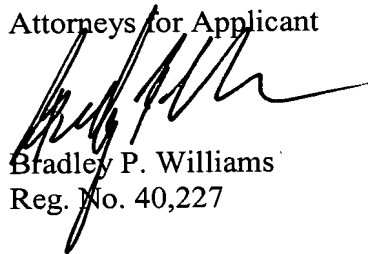
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants respectfully request, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97, and 1.98, that the documents listed on the attached PTO-1449 form be considered and cited in the examination of the above-identified application. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h), Applicants makes no representation that these documents qualify as prior art or that these documents are material to patentability of the present application or that a search has been made.

Since the present Application was filed after June 30, 2003, a copy of any U.S. Patent and any U.S. Patent Application Publication cited on the attached PTO Form 1449 is not being submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to the July 11, 2003 waiver of 37 C.F.R. S 1.98(a)(2)(i) by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 17, 2003

Customer Number:

**05073**

Patent Trademark Office

<b>PTO-1449</b>  <b>Information Disclosure Citation In an Application</b>	Application No. <b>To be Assigned</b>		Applicant(s) <b>HUMBLE et al.</b>	
	Docket Number <b>017109.0360</b>	Group Art Unit	Filing Date <b>Oct. 17, 2003</b>	

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE
	A	2,797,684	07/02/1957	W.C. Moore	128	9	08/24/1955
	B	4,886,049	12/12/1989	Darras	128	4	05/17/1988
	C	5,061,246	10/29/1991	Anapliotis	604	171	12/01/1989
	D	5,217,001	06/08/1993	Nakao et al.	128	4	12/09/1991
	E	5,910,113	06/08/1999	Pruter	600	437	03/24/1998
	F	US 2002/0082477 A1	06/27/2002	Kim	600	186	12/21/2000
	G						
	H						
	I						
	J						
	K						
	L						
	M						
	N						

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
	O							
	P							
	Q							

		DOCUMENT (Including Author, Title, Source, and Pertinent Pages)	DATE
	R		
	S		
	T		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.	

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